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Geronimo Stilton

# THE SECRET OF THE SPHINX



GERONIMO STILTON

GRAPHIC  
NOVEL

THE SECRET  
OF THE SPHINX



PAPERCUT 

#2

PAPERCUT 

## GERONIMO STILTON



MY NAME IS STILTON,  
GERONIMO STILTON!  
MY JOB IS TO EDIT  
THE RODENT'S  
GAZETTE,  
THE MOST  
FAMOUS PAPER  
ON ALL OF  
MOUSE ISLAND!



## PATTY SPRING



I'M PATTY SPRING!  
I'M A TV JOURNALIST AND  
I CIRCLE THE GLOBE  
MAKING DOCUMENTARIES TO  
PROTECT NATURE  
AND SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT!



## BENJAMIN AND PANDORA



I'M BENJAMIN STILTON  
GERONIMO'S NEPHEW  
AND THIS IS MY  
FRIEND PANDORA.  
WE PLAY TOGETHER  
AND HAVE LOTS OF FUN!  
WE'RE RAT-TASTIC  
FRIENDS!



## TRAP STILTON



AND I AM TRAP STILTON,  
GERONIMO'S COUSIN.  
I LOVE TO COOK AND  
NIBBLE ON CHEESE;  
I TELL JOKES AND  
PLAY PRANKS...  
ESPECIALLY ON THAT  
SCAREDY MOUSE GERONIMO!



MOLDY  
MOZZARELLA!  
I'M AFRAID OF  
TIGHT SPACES!

WATCH YOUR HEADS!  
THE TUNNEL GETS  
EVEN NARROWER  
FARTHER ALONG!

PROFESSOR VOLT IS A FAMOUS SCIENTIST. HE DESIGNED  
THIS TIME MACHINE FOR THE STILTON FAMILY: THEIR MIS-  
SION IS TO DEFEAT THE PIRATE CATS AND SAVE HISTORY!



ZKII ZIIK

SPEEDRAT

WHAT WICKET?  
RATS!

LET'S LOOK FOR A WAY TO GET  
OUT! WE PROMISED VOLT  
THAT WE'D STOP THE PIRATE  
CATS AND WE'RE GOING  
TO SUCCEED!

AND...  
WHERE  
DOES THIS  
PASSAGE  
GO!

AH, YOU'RE AWAKE  
NOW, COUSIN!



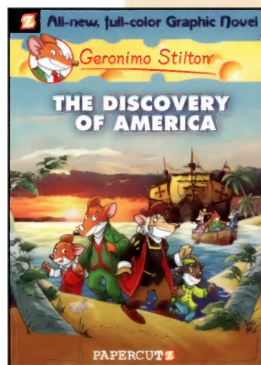
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## **THE SECRET OF THE SPHINX**



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## THE SECRET OF THE SPHINX

By Geronimo Stilton



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## THE SECRET OF THE SPHINX

IT ALL BEGAN  
ON A VERY COLD  
WINTER MORNING. NEW  
MOUSE CITY HAD BEEN  
PARALYZED BY A THREE  
FOOT BLANKET OF  
SNOW FOR DAYS...



...AND I WAS STAYING IN THE  
COZY WARMTH OF MY HOUSE,  
FULLY DRESSED, TO KEEP MY  
**WHISKERS FROM FREEZING!!!**



SO I WAS STAYING IN THE WARMTH  
WHEN THE DOORBELL RANG!



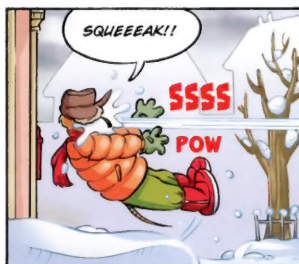
BUT HOW CARELESS OF ME! I'VE FORGOTTEN TO INTRODUCE  
MYSELF: MY NAME IS STILTON, GERONIMO STILTON! AND I EDIT THE  
RODENT'S GAZETTE, THE MOST FAMOUS PAPER ON MOUSE ISLAND!

Brrr!



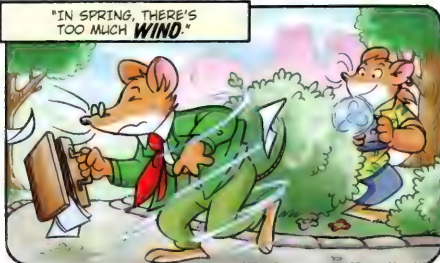
WHO KNOWS WHO IT COULD  
BE IN THIS MISERABLE  
WEATHER...



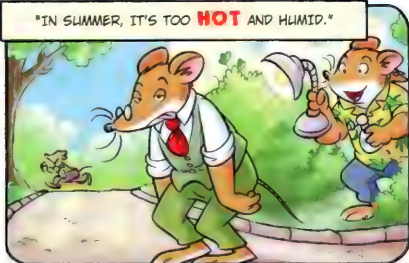




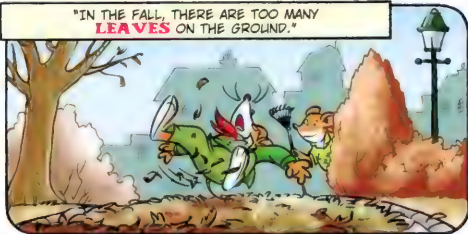
"IN SPRING, THERE'S  
TOO MUCH **WIND**."



"IN SUMMER, IT'S TOO **HOT** AND HUMID."



"IN THE FALL, THERE ARE TOO MANY  
**LEAVES** ON THE GROUND."



WELL, IF YOU DON'T  
WANT TO PLAY... YOU CAN  
ALWAYS OFFER ME A CUP  
OF HOT CHOCOLATE!

IF THAT'S  
WHAT YOU WANT,  
JUST COME INTO  
THE HOUSE...  
**BRRRR!**



**VROOOOMM**



YOO-HOO! CIAO, G!  
HI, TRAP!

?/?

P-P-PATTY?

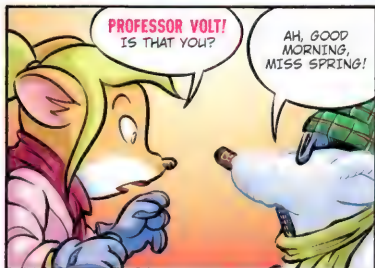
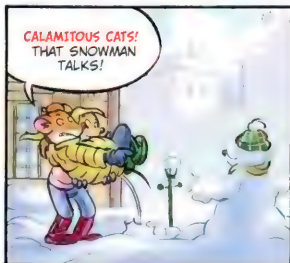
**SKREEE  
VROOOOMM**



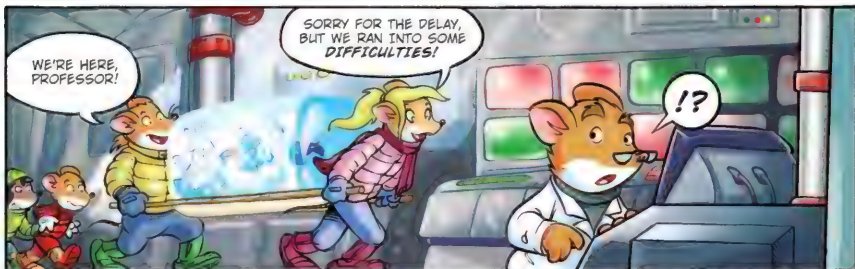
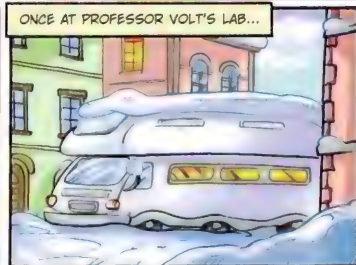
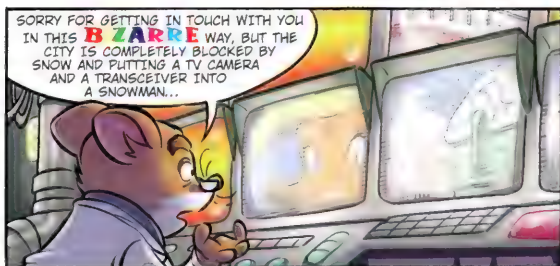
HELLO, UNCLE  
TRAP!

HI, KIDS!  
ARE YOU  
GOING SOME-  
PLACE NICE?

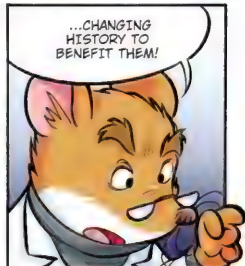
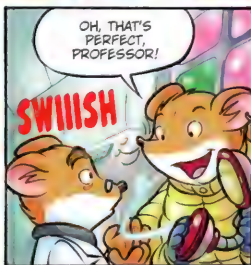
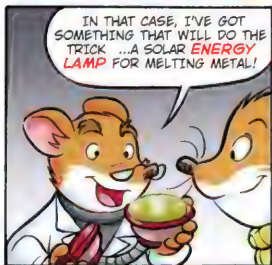


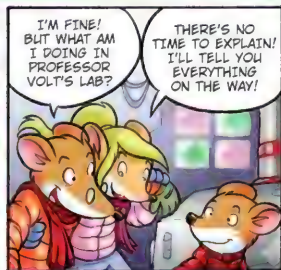
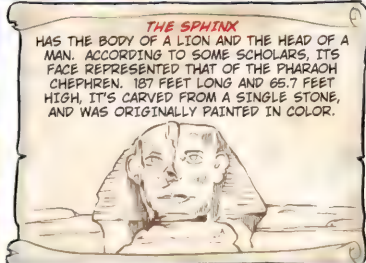
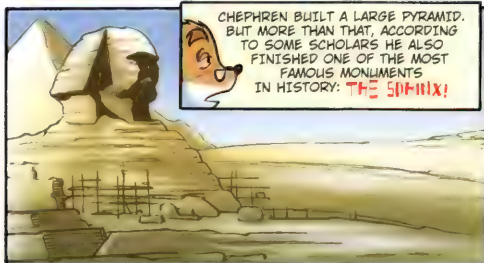
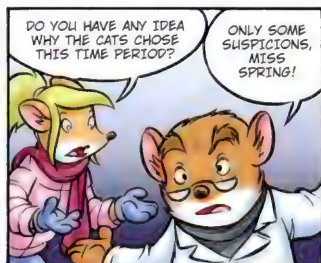




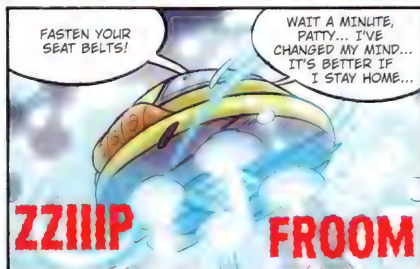
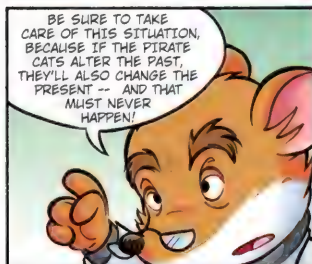
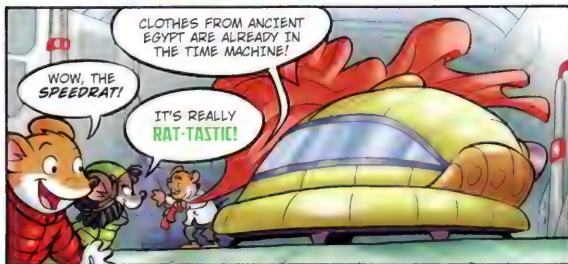




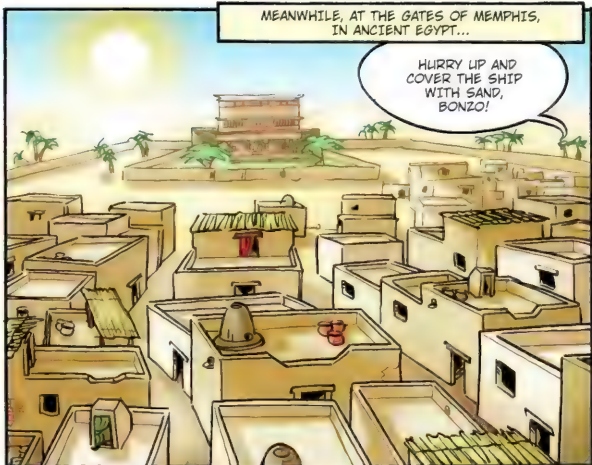








THAT'S THE WAY WE WERE  
CATAPULTED INTO THE PAST...  
DESTINATION: ANCIENT EGYPT!



MEANWHILE, AT THE GATES OF MEMPHIS,  
IN ANCIENT EGYPT...

**EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION**  
IN 3000 BC, THE LEGENDARY KING, MENES, UNIFIED ALL THE TRIBES THAT HAD UP TO THEN LIVED SEPARATELY FROM EACH OTHER ALONG THE BANKS OF THE NILE RIVER AND SO BEGAN THE FIRST OF THE THIRTY DYNASTIES OF PHARAOHS. FROM THEN ON, EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION DEVELOPED UNTIL IT REACHED A VERY HIGH LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE: IT WAS REALLY THE EGYPTIANS WHO CREATED ONE OF THE FIRST FORMS OF WRITING. IN ADDITION, THEY DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO POETRY, SCULPTURE, ARCHITECTURE, MATHEMATICS AND MEDICINE.

**MEMPHIS**  
FOUNDED AROUND THE END OF THE FOURTH MILLENNIUM BC, THE CITY OF MEMPHIS WAS THE CAPITAL OF EGYPT DURING THE PRE-DYNASTIC PERIOD (2920-2575 BC) AND THE OLD KINGDOM (2575-2134 BC).

GIZA  
MEMPHIS  
NILE RIVER



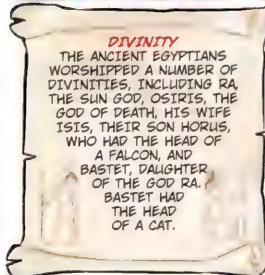
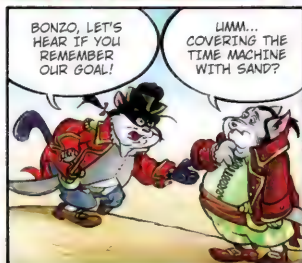
I'M CATARDONE, RULER  
OF THE PIRATE CATS.  
I CAN'T GET MY  
PAWS DIRTY!

>PUFF! PANT!<  
SO I HAVE TO DO  
EVERYTHING BY  
MYSELF?

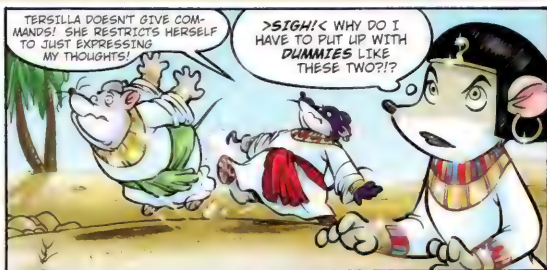
CERTAINLY!!  
AS THE LEADER,  
CATARDONE'S JOB  
IS... TO THINK!

OF  
COURSE!



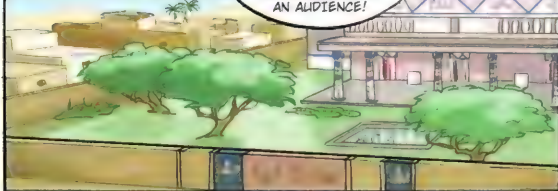






A LITTLE LATER, AT THE ROYAL PALACE IN MEMPHIS...

NOBLE VIZIER RAT-KARIE, TWO PRIESTS OF THE GODDESS BASTET ARE REQUESTING AN AUDIENCE!



**THE VIZIER**  
WAS THE PHARAOH'S PRIME MINISTER AND WORKED WITH THE PHARAOH IN DIRECTING NUMEROUS AFFAIRS OF STATE. HE WAS, THEREFORE, IN CHARGE OF CONVEYING THE ORDERS OF THE KING, COLLECTING TAXES, ADMINISTERING JUSTICE, CHECKING ON THE PROGRESS OF PUBLIC PROJECTS AND THE FLOW OF TRANSPORTATION ON THE RIVER.

PRIESTS? ALL RIGHT, SEND THEM IN!

YES, MY LORD!



WHATEVER THE REASON FOR THEIR VISIT, IT'S BETTER TO TREAT THEM WITH RESPECT AND NOT ANNOY THE GODS.



### PRIESTS

IN ANCIENT EGYPT, PRIESTS CELEBRATED THE RELIGIOUS RITES FOR WORSHIPPING THE DIFFERENT DIVINITIES. AS A RESULT, THERE WERE MANY TO KEEP UP WITH AND THEY ENJOYED NUMEROUS PRIVILEGES.



THANK YOU FOR RECEIVING US, OH MOST ILLUSTRIOUS VIZIER! I AM CAT-STUHE AND THIS IS BON-ZETET. WE ARE PRIESTS OF THE GODDESS BASTET.

I, ON THE OTHER HAND, AM RAT-SHEPSUT, TEMPLE DANCER FOR THE GODDESS BASTET.



TELL ME EVERYTHING! UNFORTUNATELY I CAN ONLY GIVE YOU A LITTLE TIME!

>YAWN!<

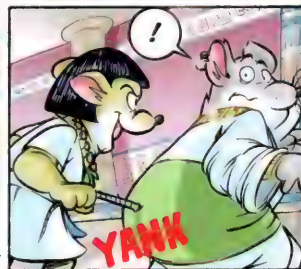
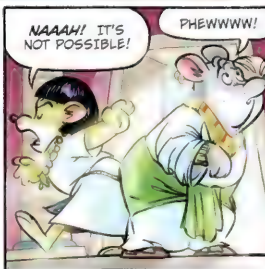
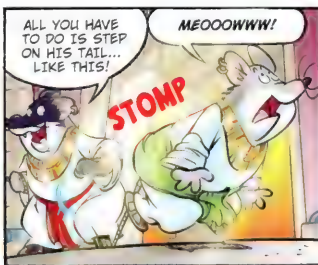
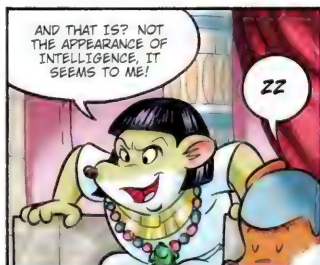


THAT WILL BE ENOUGH TIME TO SHOW YOU THE MOST INCREDIBLE **MIRACLE!**



BON-ZETET HAS RECEIVED A GIFT FROM THE GODDESS BASTET.









MEOOOWWWW!

NOW ARE YOU CONVINCED OF THE MIRACLE, MOST ILLUSTRIOUS RAT-KARLE?

YES. ACTUALLY, I'M CURIOUS TO KNOW WHAT HE'S SAYING!



IT'S BETTER THAT WE DON'T! BUT IF YOU TAKE US IN YOUR SERVICE, OUR DANCER WILL TRANSLATE THE MESSAGES OF THE GODDESS!



AS A MATTER OF FACT, SHE ALONE CAN UNDERSTAND THE WORDS OF THE GODDESS!

REALLY? AND HAS THE GODDESS EVER SPOKEN ABOUT ME?



BUT OF COURSE, **MOST ILLUSTRIOUS VIZIER!** IT WAS ACTUALLY THE GODDESS BASTET WHO ORDERED US TO COME HERE!



SHE SAID, "GO TO MEMPHIS AND TAKE MY ADVISERS TO RAT-KARLE, VIZIER TO CHEPHREN, A RODENT WHOSE INTELLIGENCE IS GREATER THAN ANYONE ELSE'S!"



EVEN PHARAOH'S?

PHARAOH'S AND THE WHOLE ROYAL FAMILY.



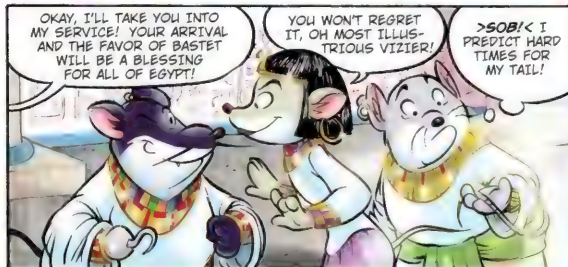
THE GODDESS GAVE YOU A **SPECIAL GIFT**, TOO?

YES, OF COURSE... INTELLIGENCE!



STRANGE... I HADN'T NOTICED THAT!

>GULP!<



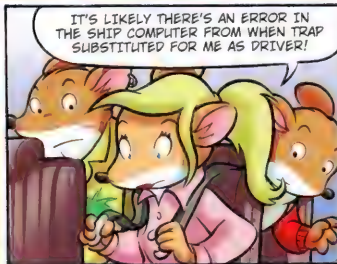
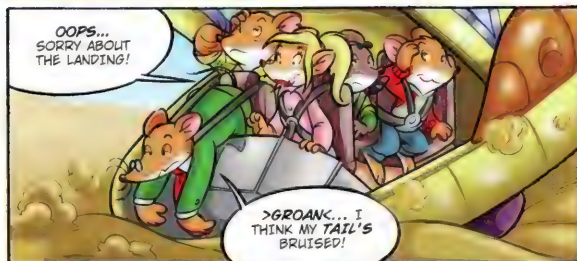
OKAY, I'LL TAKE YOU INTO MY SERVICE! YOUR ARRIVAL AND THE FAVOR OF BASTET WILL BE A BLESSING FOR ALL OF EGYPT!

YOU WON'T REGRET IT, OH MOST ILLUSTRIOUS VIZIER!

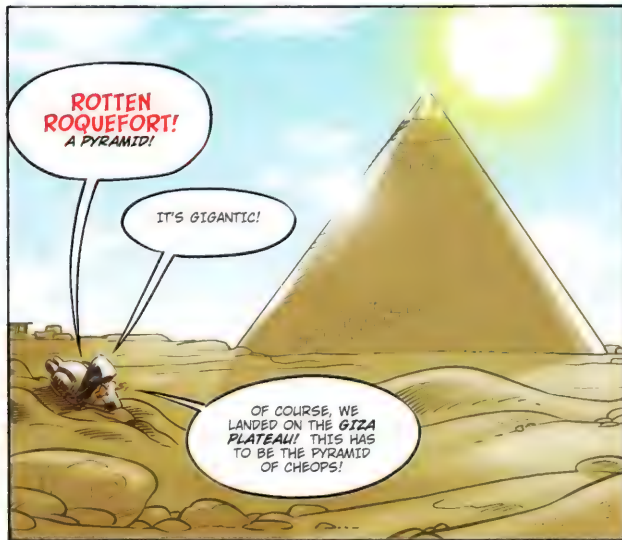
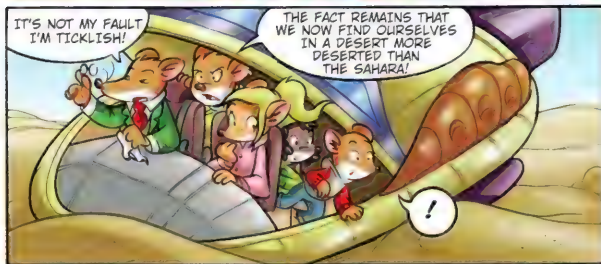
>SOB!< I PREDICT HARD TIMES FOR MY TAIL!



MORE INTELLIGENT THAN PHARAOH CHEPHREN AND THE ROYAL FAMILY! THE GODS HAVE BIG PLANS FOR ME...







**GIZA PLATEAU**  
NORTH OF MEMPHIS, IT WAS CHOSEN BY THE PHARAOH CHEOPS, CHEPHREN'S FATHER, AS THE SITE FOR HIS OWN PYRAMID. AT 480 FEET IN HEIGHT AND 656 FEET ALONG EACH SIDE AT THE BASE, THE PYRAMID OF CHEOPS IS THE LARGEST PYRAMID IN ANCIENT EGYPT. IT TOOK OVER 20 YEARS TO BUILD AND MORE THAN 2,000,000 BLOCKS OF STONE THAT WEIGHED AROUND 2.5 TONS EACH. THE PYRAMIDS OF CHEPHREN, HIS SON MICERINO, AND THE SPHINX WERE ALSO BUILT AT GIZA.



COME ON!  
LET'S HIDE THE  
TIME MACHINE  
AND GET  
OURSELVES  
READY!



AFTER PUTTING ON CLOTHING  
FROM THAT TIME PERIOD...

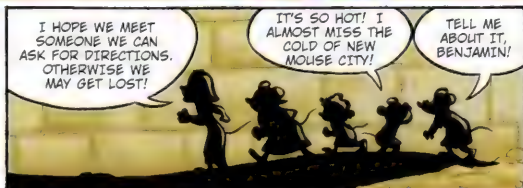
DONE! THE  
SPEEDRAT WON'T  
ATTRACT ANY PRYING  
EYES UNDER  
THIS DUNE!

UNLIKE MY  
KILT! I FEEL  
RIDICULOUS,  
PATTY!



GERONIMO YOU'RE **ALWAYS**  
RIDICULOUS, DON'T YOU KNOW  
THAT? EVEN WHEN YOU'RE  
WEARING NORMAL CLOTHES!

THANK YOU,  
TRAP!



I HOPE WE MEET  
SOMEONE WE CAN  
ASK FOR DIRECTIONS.  
OTHERWISE WE  
MAY GET LOST!

IT'S SO HOT! I  
ALMOST MISS THE  
COLD OF NEW  
MOUSE CITY!

TELL ME  
ABOUT IT,  
BENJAMIN!



HEY! THERE'S  
A CONSTRUCTION  
SITE OVER THERE!  
THEY'RE BUILDING  
ANOTHER  
**PYRAMID!**

IT DEFINITELY HAS  
TO BE CHEPHREN'S.  
HE'S THE PHAROAH  
WHO RULED IN  
THIS ERA!



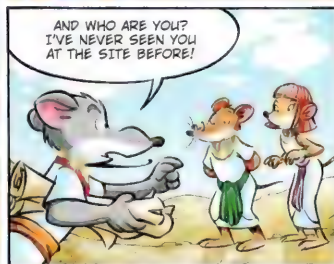
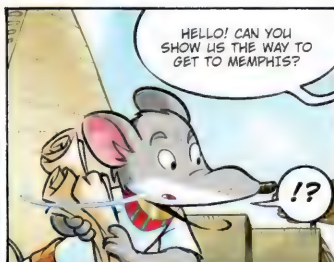
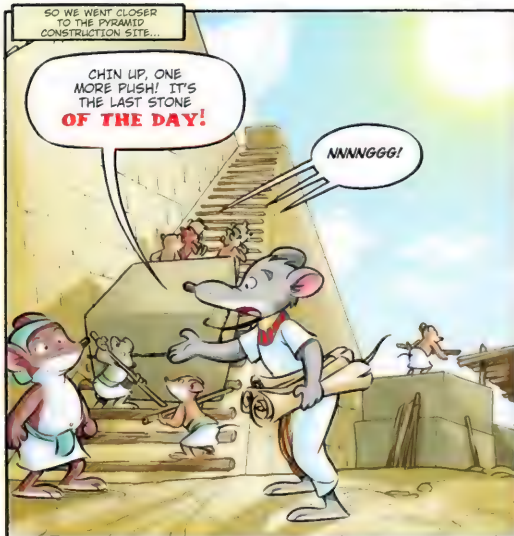
DID YOU NOTICE,  
UNCLE G? TO THE  
RIGHT OF THE  
PYRAMID IS ANOTH-  
ER MONUMENT...  
BUT IT'S ALL  
COVERED UP...

THAT HAS TO  
BE THE SPHINX,  
WHICH HASN'T  
BEEN FINISHED  
YET!

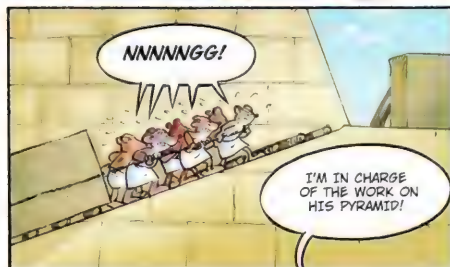


LET'S TURN ON THE  
EAPIECES PROFESSOR VOLT  
GAVE US AND GET CLOSER!

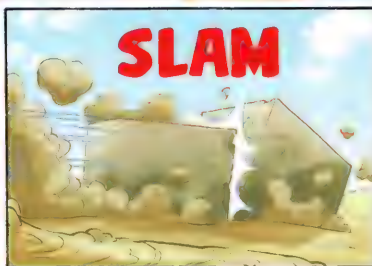
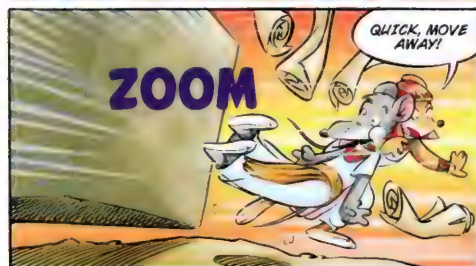
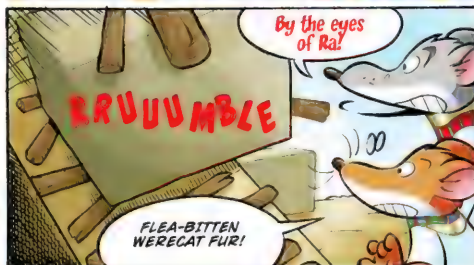
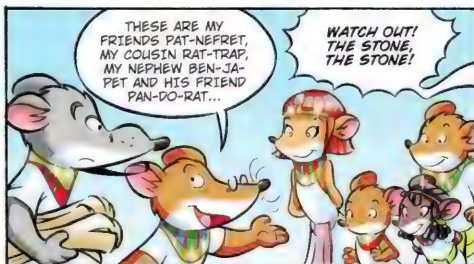
**CLICK**

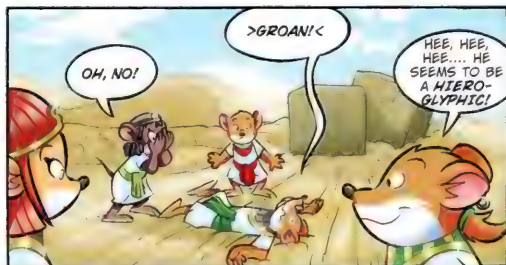


**SCRIBES**  
IN ANCIENT EGYPT, SCRIBES WERE AMONG THE FEW WHO KNEW HOW TO WRITE. THEY WROTE ON SHEETS OF PAPYRUS, USING PEN NIBS MADE FROM REED OR CANE THAT WERE FIRST SOAKED IN WATER AND THEN DIPPED IN INK.

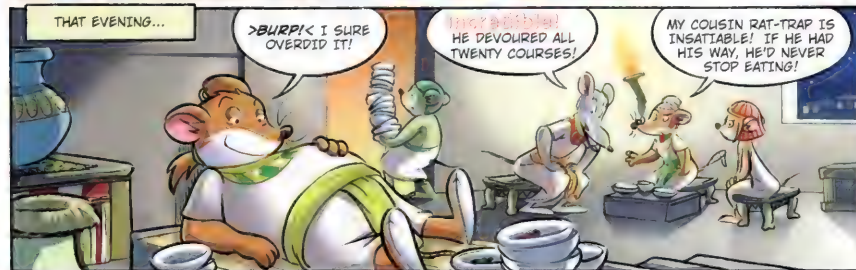
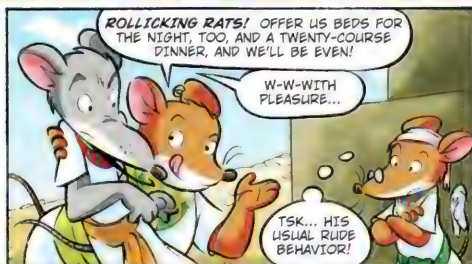
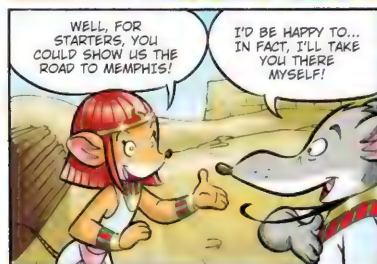
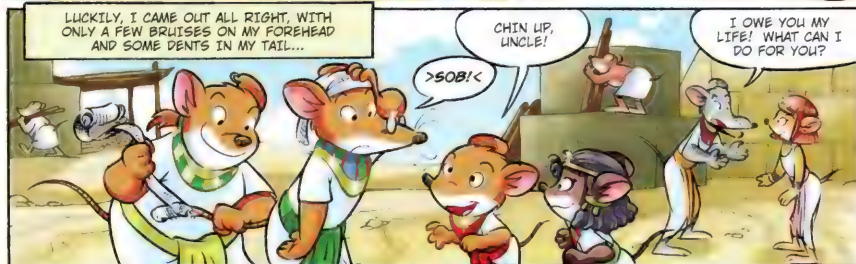




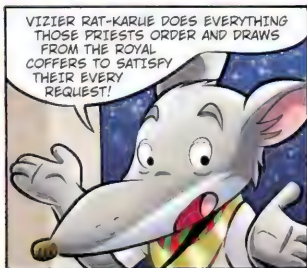
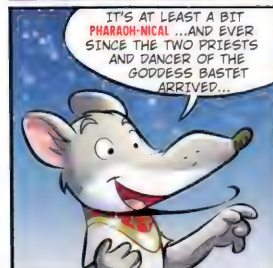
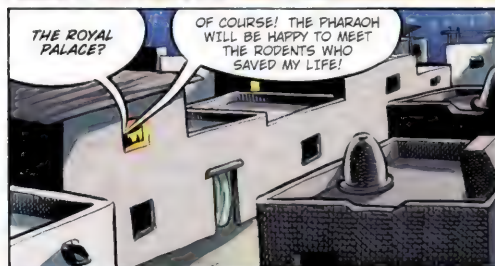


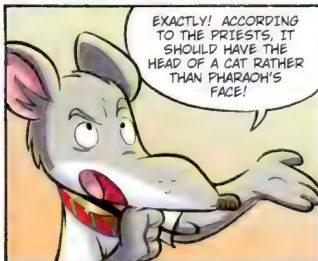
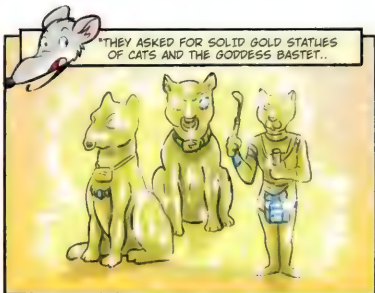


**HIEROGLYPHICS**  
 SCRIBES WROTE WITH IDEOGRAMS (DRAWINGS THAT REPRESENT IDEAS), PHONOGRAMS (DRAWINGS THAT REPRESENT SOUNDS AND IDEAS), AND DETERMINATIVES (DRAWINGS THAT REPRESENT IDEAS AND COMPLETE THE MEANING OF A WORD). THERE ARE OVER 700 HIEROGLYPHS, MADE UP OF IMAGES OF ANIMALS, BODY PARTS, AND OBJECTS FROM DAILY LIFE.









"ONE DAY, I SAT IN ON ONE OF THEIR DISCUSSIONS ABOUT IT..."

I DEMAND THAT THE MONUMENT WITH THE BODY OF A LION SACRED TO US HAVE MY FACE!

**ANIMALS**  
IN THE ANCIENT EGYPTIAN RELIGION, SOME ANIMALS WERE CONSIDERED SACRED, INCLUDING CATS, CROCODILES, FALCONS, SNAKES, LIONS, AND JACKALS. SCRIBES ALSO USED THE IMAGES OF ANIMALS AS SIGNS FOR WRITING.

BUT, DIVINE PHARAOH, IT'S BASTET WHO HAS ASKED THAT I HAVE THE FACE OF A CAT. IF WE DON'T CARRY OUT HER COMMANDS, THE GODDESS MAY AVENGE HERSELF ON US!

I'M THE SON OF THE SUN! I'M ALSO A GOD! THE GODDESS BASTET WILL UNDERSTAND MY REASONS!

**PHARAOH**  
ANCIENT EGYPTIANS BELIEVED THAT THE PHARAOH WAS THE HUMAN INCARNATION OF THE GOD HORUS, A GOD WITH THE HEAD OF A FALCON AND THE SON OF THE SUN GOD.

WHICH THE VIZIER DIDN'T DARE ANSWER BACK TO! ANYHOW, FOR THE MOMENT, THE PROJECT IS BLOCKED!

THANK GOODNESS!

OH, BUT I'VE BEEN BORING YOU WITH ALL MY CHATTERING! I'LL BET YOU'RE ALL WORN OUT FROM YOUR JOURNEY!

AS A MATTER OF FACT, IT FEELS LIKE THE JOURNEY TOOK CENTURIES!

MORE THAN CENTURIES...  
**MILLENNIA!**

YOU'D DO WELL TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF YOUR FRIENDS AND GET SOME REST! WE HAVE A BIG DAY AHEAD OF US TOMORROW!

**SNORE  
SNORE  
SNORE**

>SNORE,  
SNORE!<

**SNORE**



THE NEXT MORNING, EVEN THOUGH WE WERE WORRIED BY RATTY-ATUM'S STORIES, WE AGREED TO TOUR THE STREETS OF MEMPHIS...

BRRR...  
A CAT!

MMM... ROSE  
AND LAVENDER  
OIL: WHAT A  
DELICIOUS  
SCENT!

DATES, FIGS,  
EGGS... I  
COULD CREATE  
SO MANY  
RECIPES!

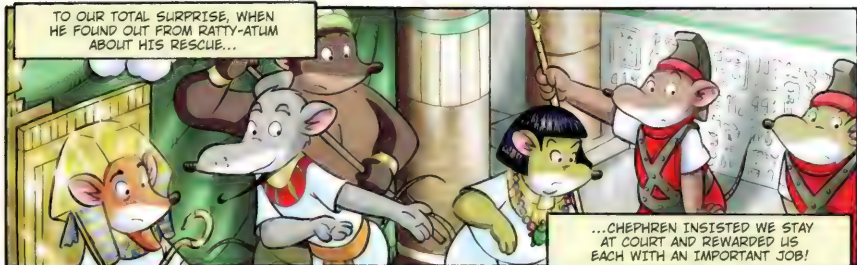
AH, IF I  
ONLY HAD A  
CAMERA WITH  
ME!

A REAL  
**SARCOPHAGUS!**

THEN IN THE AFTERNOON, WE WENT TO THE ROYAL PALACE TO MEET THE PHARAOH CHEPHREN, LORD AND MASTER OF ALL OF EGYPT!

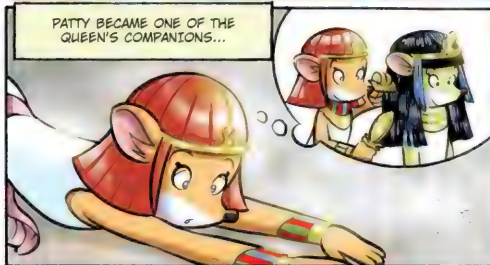
**CHEPHREN**  
PHARAOH FROM  
THE FOURTH  
DYNASTY  
(ROUGHLY 2588-  
2563 BC). IT'S  
NOT KNOWN  
EXACTLY HOW  
LONG HE  
REIGNED. HE  
BUILT HIS  
PYRAMID ON THE  
PLATEAU OF GIZA,  
NEXT TO THE  
SPHINX AND THAT  
OF HIS FATHER,  
CHEOPS. LATER  
ON, CHEPHREN'S  
SON, MICEERINQ,  
ALSO BUILT HIS  
PYRAMID NEXT TO  
HIS FATHER'S.

TO OUR TOTAL SURPRISE, WHEN HE FOUND OUT FROM RATTY-ATUM ABOUT HIS RESCUE...



...CHEPHREN INSISTED WE STAY AT COURT AND REWARDED US EACH WITH AN IMPORTANT JOB!

PATTY BECAME ONE OF THE QUEEN'S COMPANIONS...

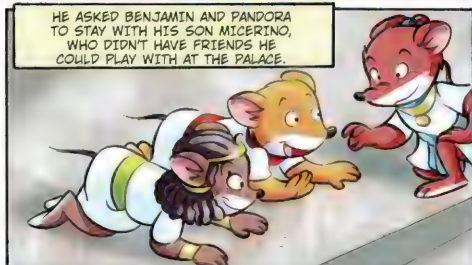


PHARAOH GAVE TRAP THE JOB OF TASTER...

>SLURP!<

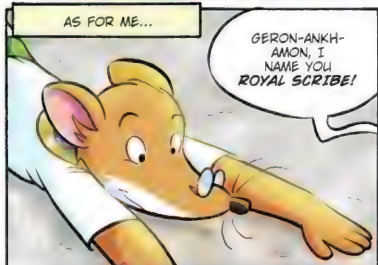


HE ASKED BENJAMIN AND PANDORA TO STAY WITH HIS SON MICERINO, WHO DIDN'T HAVE FRIENDS HE COULD PLAY WITH AT THE PALACE.



AS FOR ME...

GERON-ANKH-AMON, I NAME YOU ROYAL SCRIBE!

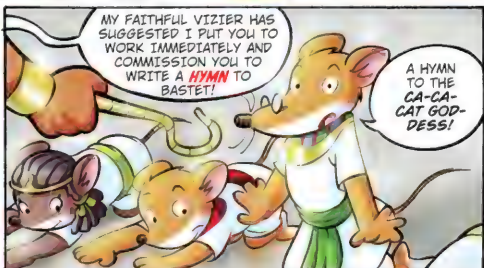


PSST, PSST, PSST...

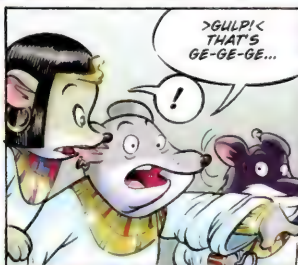


MY FAITHFUL VIZIER HAS SUGGESTED I PUT YOU TO WORK IMMEDIATELY AND COMMISSION YOU TO WRITE A HYMN TO BASTET!

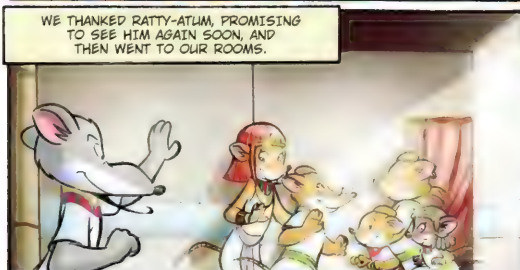
A HYMN TO THE CA-CA-CAT GOD-DESS!

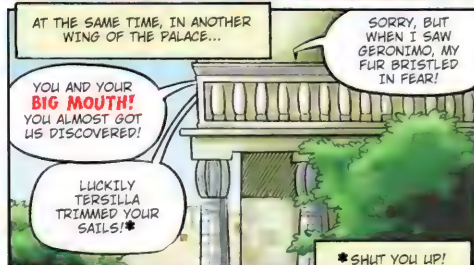
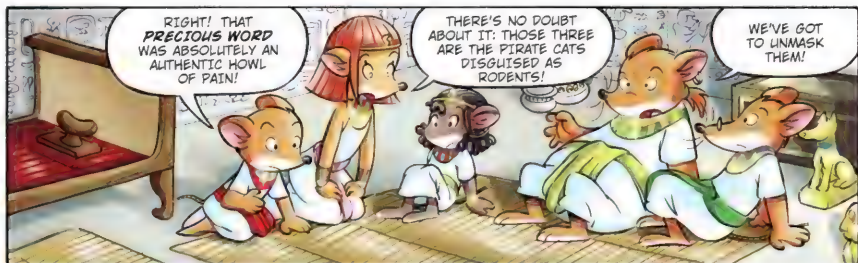




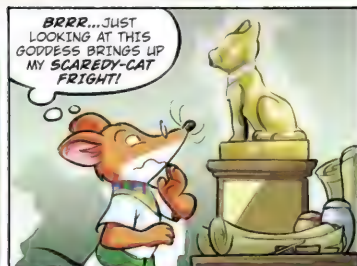
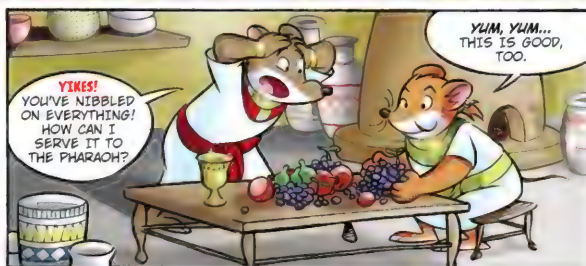
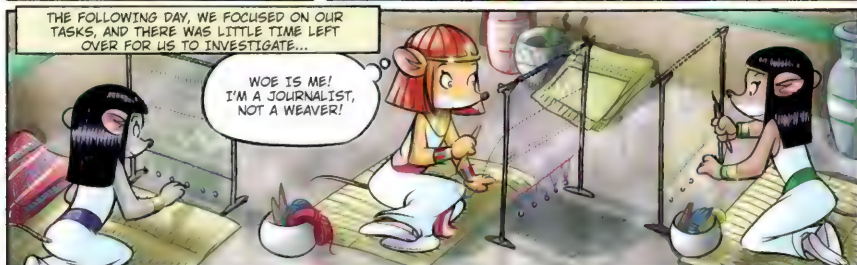




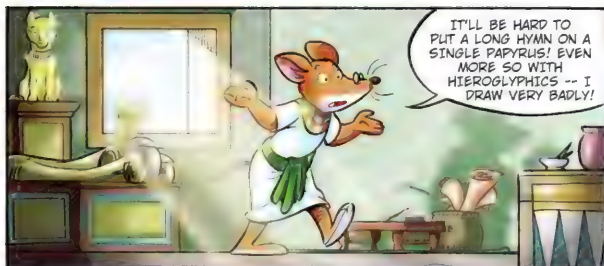












IT'LL BE HARD TO  
PUT A LONG HYMN ON A  
SINGLE PAPYRUS! EVEN  
MORE SO WITH  
HIEROGLYPHICS -- I  
DRAW VERY BADLY!

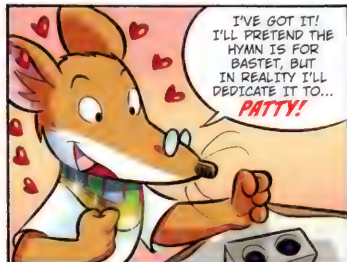
**PAPYRUS**  
IS A PLANT WITH A  
LONG STEM AND  
LEAVES THAT GROWS  
IN THE SWAMPS ALONG  
THE NILE RIVER. IT  
WAS USED PRIMARILY  
TO MAKE SHEETS FOR  
WRITING, WHICH WERE  
MADE BY SOAKING THE  
LEAVES IN WATER  
AND THEN DRYING  
THEM IN THE SUN.



I WONDER IF  
I SHOULD TRY TO  
GET INSPIRED  
BY THINKING OF  
SOMETHING ELSE?



I COULD THINK OF  
A TART OF SMOKED  
CHEESE... OR MAYBE  
OF SOMEONE SPECIAL!



I'VE GOT IT!  
I'LL PRETEND THE  
HYMN IS FOR  
BASTET, BUT  
IN REALITY I'LL  
DEDICATE IT TO...  
**PATTY!**



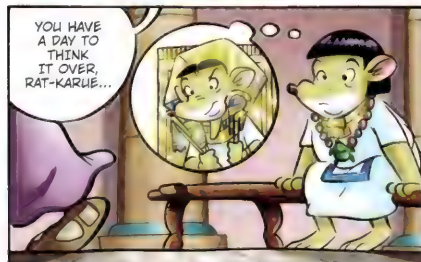
OH, NOBLE FELINE  
GODDESS, WHEN I LOOK  
UPON YOU, I THINK,  
"YOU HAVE EYES THE  
COLOR OF THE SKY  
AND A HEART FILLED  
WITH LOVE..."

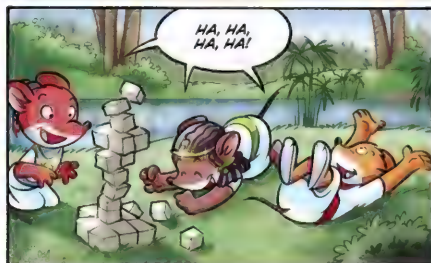
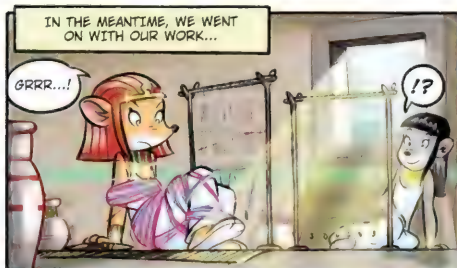
MEANWHILE, EVEN TERSILLA HAD HER PAWS IN ACTION...



RAT-KARUE,  
WE HAVE TO  
SPEAK! IT'S  
URGENT!

**HORUS' BEAK!**  
I'M RESTING!







LIAM...

**SQUEEAK! BUT  
THIS ISN'T THE  
TEXT I WROTE!**

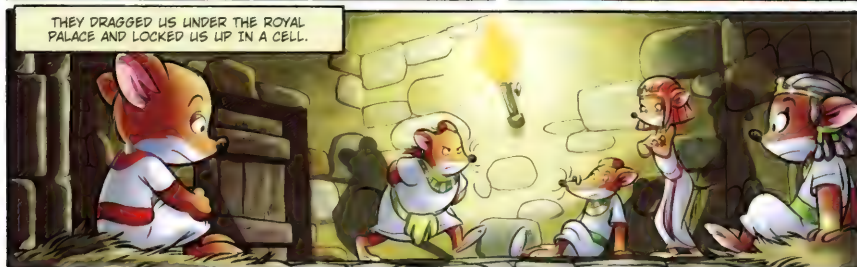
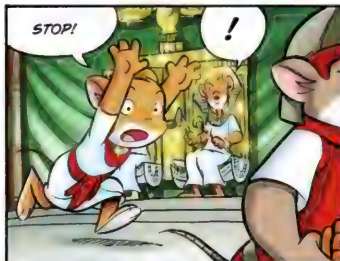
THE SCRIBE HAS  
INSULTED THE  
GODDESS  
BASTET!

BUT...  
BUT...

GUARDS,  
ARREST HIM!

THAT HAS YOUR PAW  
PRINTS ALL OVER IT,  
HUH? I RECOGNIZE  
YOUR STYLE...

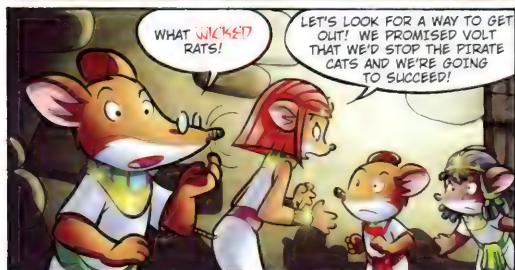
HEE,  
HEE,  
HEE!

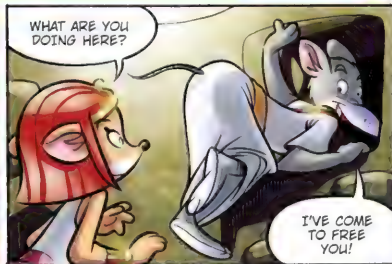
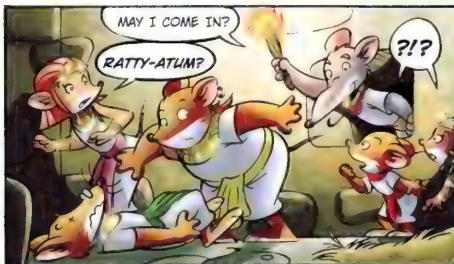




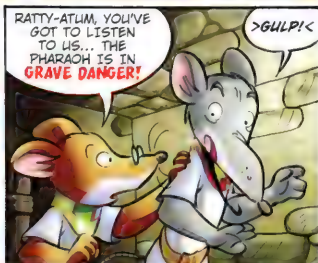






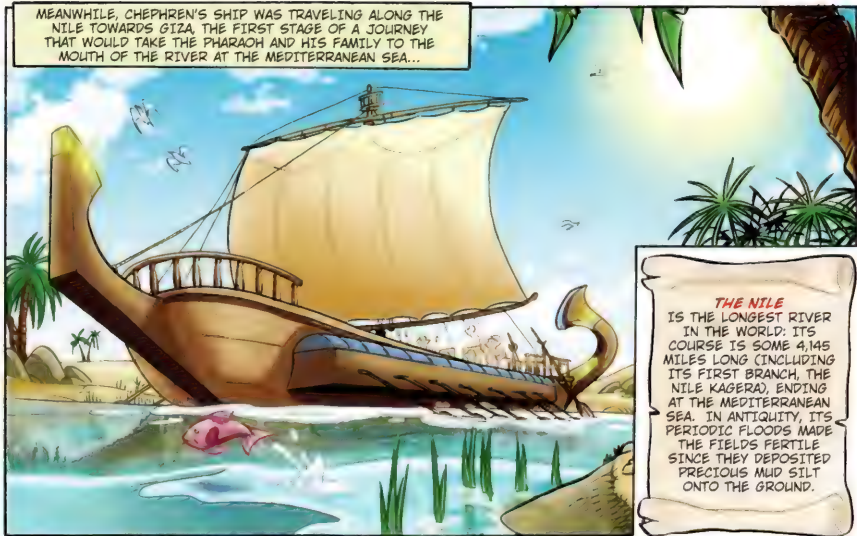




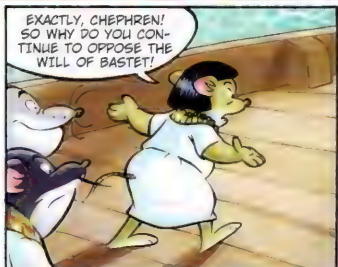


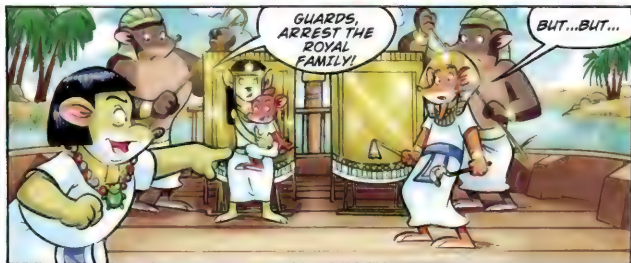
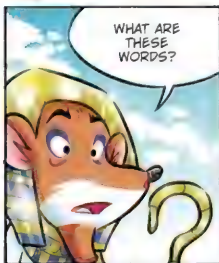


MEANWHILE, CHEPHREN'S SHIP WAS TRAVELING ALONG THE NILE TOWARD'S GIZA. THE FIRST STAGE OF A JOURNEY THAT WOULD TAKE THE PHARAOH AND HIS FAMILY TO THE MOUTH OF THE RIVER AT THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA...

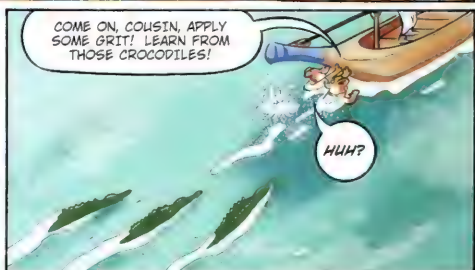
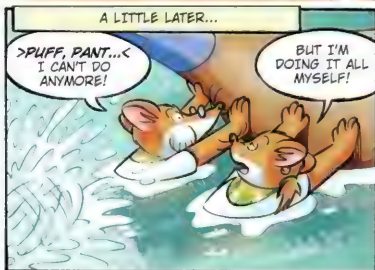
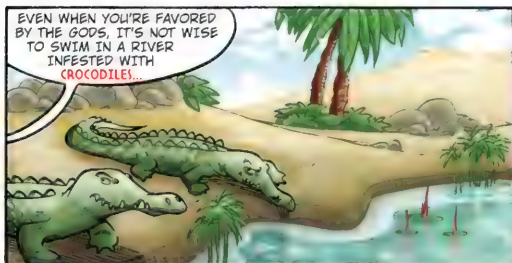


**THE NILE**  
IS THE LONGEST RIVER IN THE WORLD: ITS COURSE IS SOME 4,145 MILES LONG (INCLUDING ITS FIRST BRANCH, THE NILE KAGERA), ENDING AT THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA. IN ANTIQUITY, ITS PERIODIC FLOODS MADE THE FIELDS FERTILE SINCE THEY DEPOSITED PRECIOUS MUD SILT ONTO THE GROUND.

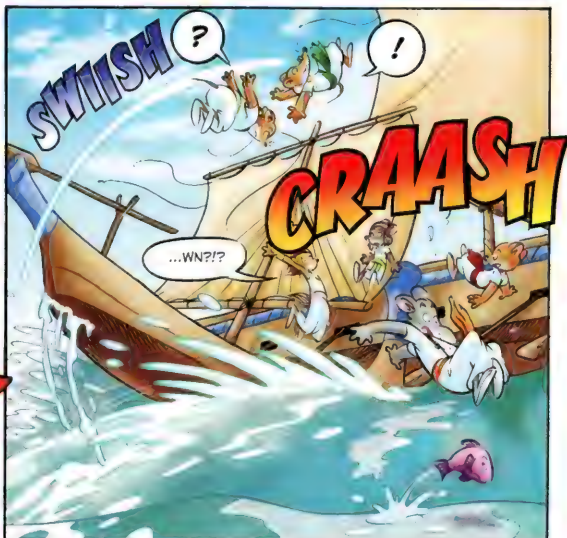
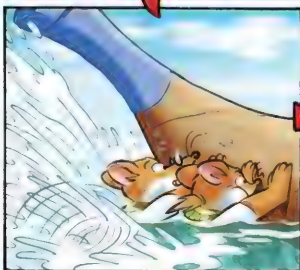
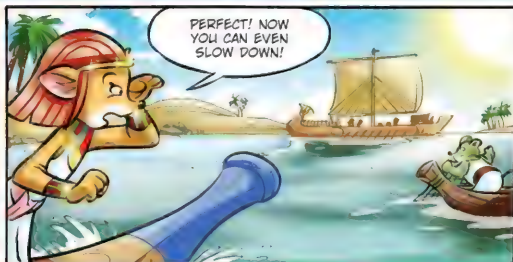


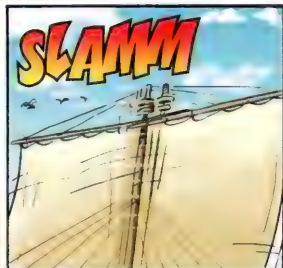
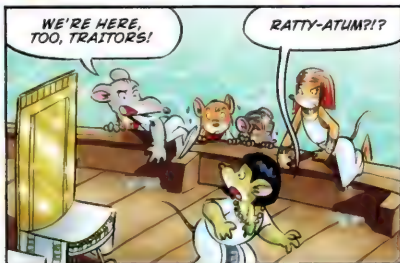




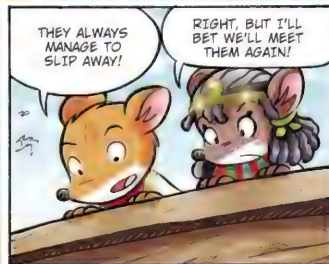
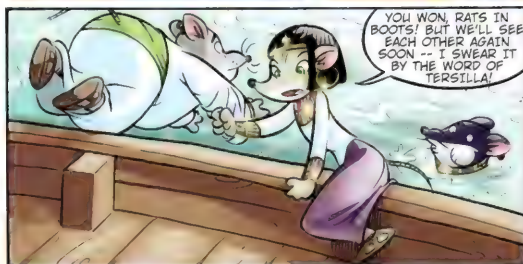
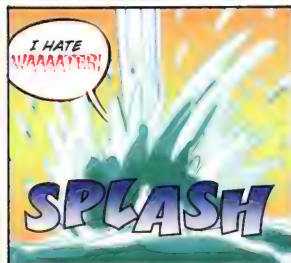
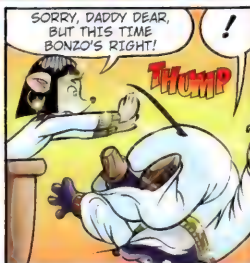
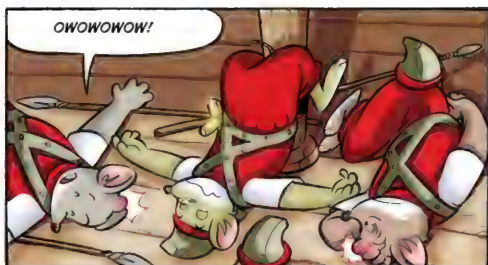






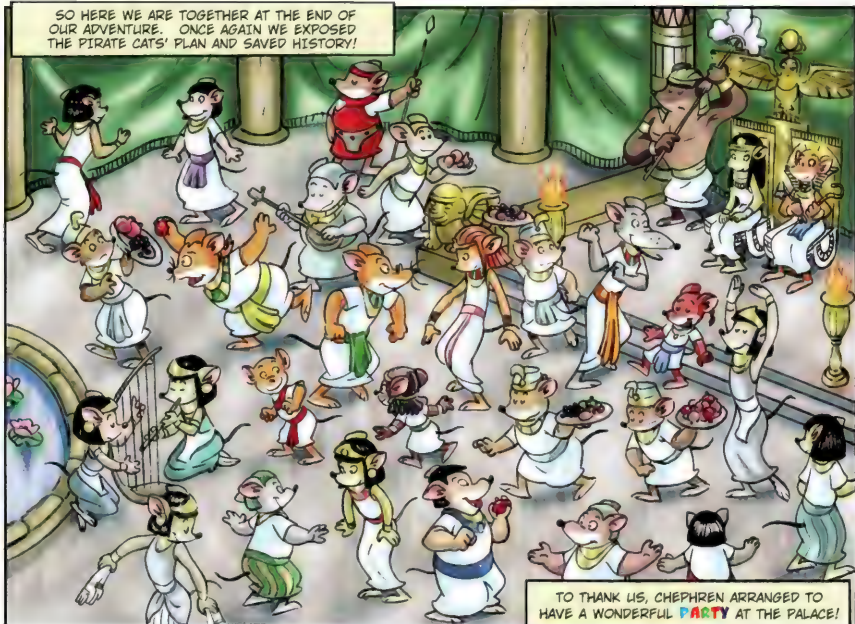






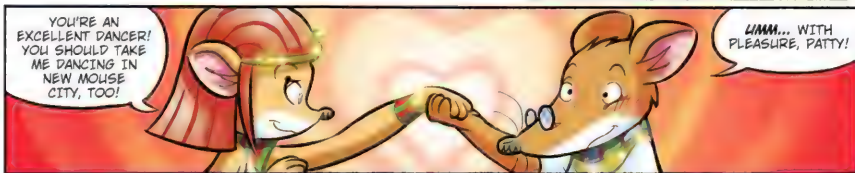


SO HERE WE ARE TOGETHER AT THE END OF OUR ADVENTURE. ONCE AGAIN WE EXPOSED THE PIRATE CATS' PLAN AND SAVED HISTORY!



TO THANK US, CHEPHREN ARRANGED TO HAVE A WONDERFUL PARTY AT THE PALACE!

YOU'RE AN EXCELLENT DANCER! YOU SHOULD TAKE ME DANCING IN NEW MOUSE CITY, TOO!

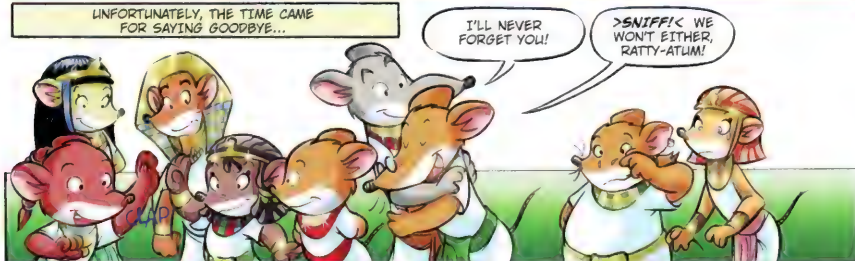


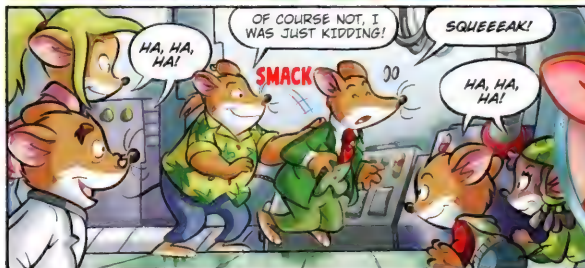
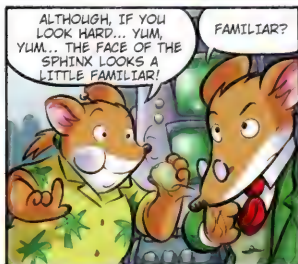
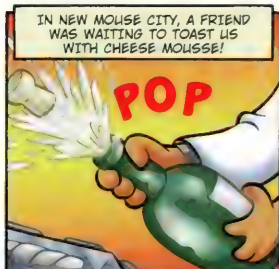
UHH... WITH PLEASURE, PATTY!

UNFORTUNATELY, THE TIME CAME FOR SAYING GOODBYE...

I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!

>SNIFF< WE WON'T EITHER, RATTY-ATUM!





# WATCH OUT FOR PAPER CUT

You know, I'm really jealous of Geronimo Stilton! You see, both Geronimo and I are Editors-in-Chief. He edits the Rodent Gazette, the most famous paper on Mouse Island, and I edit Papercutz graphic novels, the most famous graphic novels published at 40 Exchange Place, on Manhattan Island. But Geronimo can do something I can't do – he can travel through time!

Wow! If I could travel through time, none of our graphic novels would ever be late! Not that Stefan Petrucha, Sarah Kinney, and Sho Murase are ever late writing or drawing our NANCY DREW graphic novels, but I'm sure they'd all love to take a break and travel back in time to witness some of history's most famous unsolved mysteries.

Scott Lobdell and Paulo Henrique would probably want to stop time, catch their breath from writing and drawing THE HARDY BOYS graphic novels, and get together to create a movie, with Scott writing and directing and Paulo starring and performing the score.

Greg Farshtey would secretly love to take a little time off from writing every BIONICLE story ever published, including our graphic novels, to actually have time to play with the amazing constructible action figures from LEGO that star in all his stories.

Of course, if you're a real comicbook fan like me, you couldn't resist going back in time and picking up the original CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED and TALES FROM THE CRYPT comicbooks right off the newsstands for only 15 cents or 10 cents each. Today the comics are worth a whole lot more! Who knows, maybe one day our Papercutz CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED and TALES FROM THE CRYPT graphic novels will be worth a small fortune too?

Well, I may not be able to travel through time, but I can show you a little bit of the future! On the following pages we have a special sneak preview of GERONIMO STILTON #3 "The Coliseum Con." It's the next exciting GERONIMO STILTON graphic novel from Papercutz, and it's coming soon to booksellers everywhere. In the meantime, visit me at [www.papercutz.com](http://www.papercutz.com) and tell us what you think of this graphic novel. We really want to hear from you, and I hope you post your comments on our Papercutz Blog for all your fellow Geronimo Stilton fans to see! Of course, there's always lots of fun awaiting you at [www.geronimostilton.com](http://www.geronimostilton.com), but I bet you already knew that!

Until next time, here's wishing Professor Bolt can whip up a time machine that will help me get into the Papercutz offices before editorial Assistant Mike Petranek!

Thanks,

*Jim*

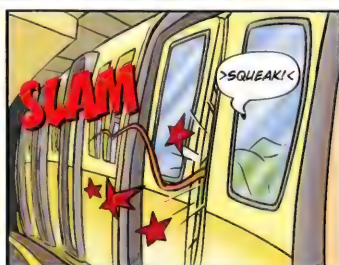
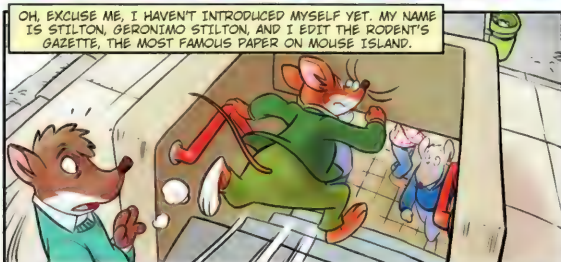


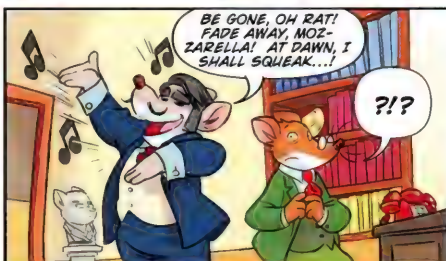
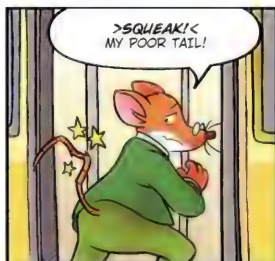
Caricature drawn by Steve Brodner at the MoCCA Art Fest.



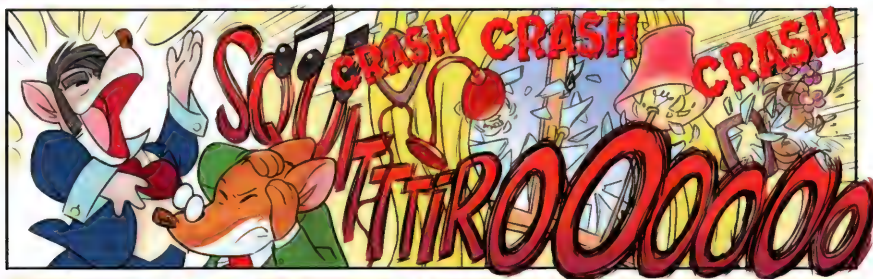
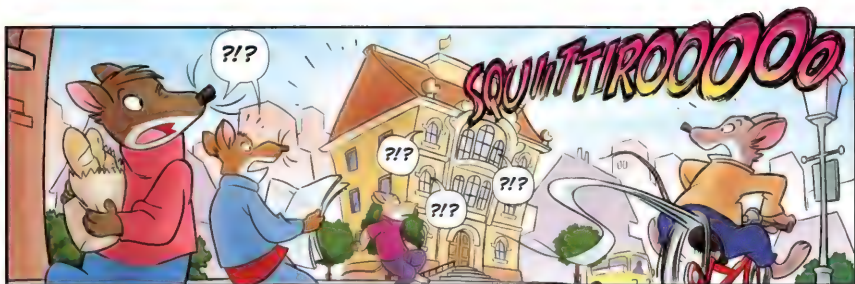


# Special Preview of GERONIMO STILTON Graphic Novel #3 – “The Coliseum Con”!

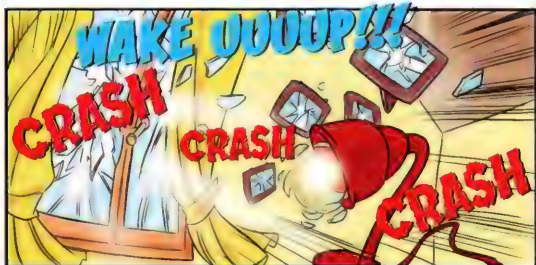
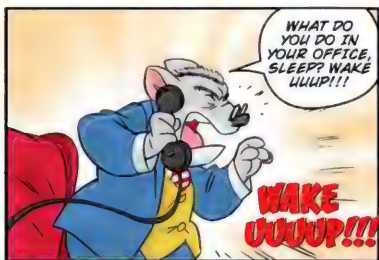
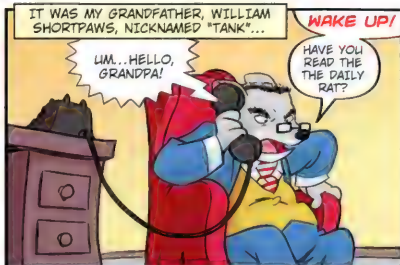


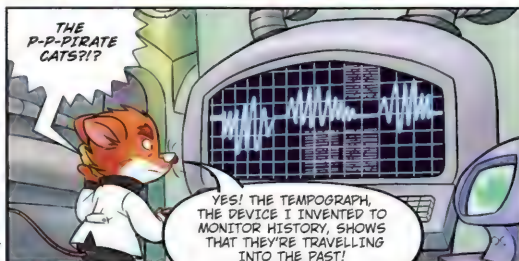
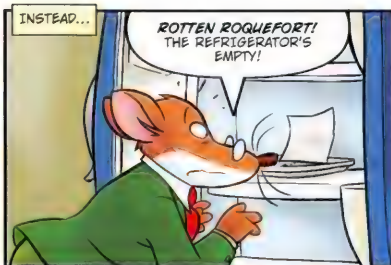












**Don't miss GERONIMO STILTON**  
**Graphic Novel #3 – "The Coliseum Con"**







THE PIRATE CATS TRAVEL TO THE PAST ON THE CATJET SO THAT THEY CAN CHANGE HISTORY AND BECOME RICH AND FAMOUS. BUT GERONIMO AND THE STILTON FAMILY ALWAYS MANAGE TO UNMASK THEM!



## CATARDONE III OF CATATONIA



I'M CATARDONE  
III OF CATATONIA,  
RULER OF THE  
PIRATE CATS.  
MY DREAM IS  
TO BECOME  
THE RICHEST AND  
MOST FAMOUS  
CAT OF ALL  
OF TIME!



## TERSILLA OF CATATONIA



I'M TERSILLA  
OF CATATONIA,  
DAUGHTER OF THE  
RULER OF THE  
PIRATE  
CATS...  
BUT IN REALITY,  
IT IS I  
WHO RULE!



## BONZO FELIX

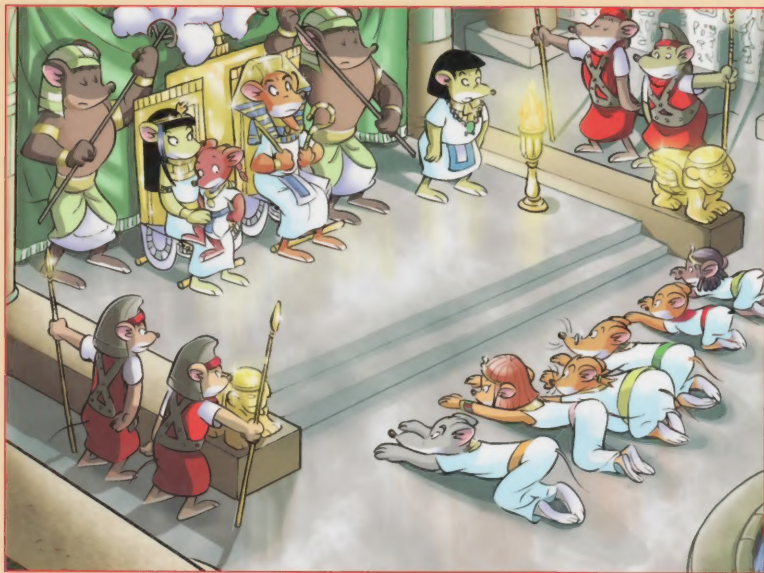


I'M BONZO FELIX,  
THE ASSISTANT TO  
CATARDONE III.  
I FOLLOW HIM  
IN EVERY ADVENTURE  
EVEN THOUGH  
WE'RE ALWAYS  
GETTING INTO  
TROUBLE!



# Geronimo Stilton

**Saving the future, by protecting the past!**



**GERONIMO STILTON IS THE EDITOR OF THE RODENT GAZETTE, THE MOST FAMOUS PAPER ON MOUSE ISLAND. IN HIS FREE TIME HE LOVES TO TELL FUN, HAPPY STORIES. IN THIS ADVENTURE, GERONIMO HAS TO FACE HIS WORST ENEMIES, THE PIRATE CATS, WHO HAVE DISCOVERED A WAY TO TRAVEL BACK IN TIME AND CHANGE HISTORY... THEY WANT TO CHANGE THE FACE OF THE GREAT SPHINX INTO A CAT'S FACE! CAN THEY POSSIBLY TRICK THE PHAROAH CHEPHREN INTO MAKING THIS HAPPEN? AND HOW CAN GERONIMO STILTON POSSIBLY STOP THEM?**



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